

HOUSING RESOURCES COMMISSION

Quarterly Meeting

One Capitol Hill, Conference Room A

Providence, RI

M I N U T E S of December 8th, 2006

Susan Baxter, Chair, called the meeting of the RI Housing Resources Commission to order at 9:12am.

Commissioners present were:

Gene Nadeau

Dennis Langely

Bob McDonough

Bonnie Sekeres

Barbara Fields

Mike Tondra Peter Walsh

Robert McDonough Kevin Flynn

Terence Tierney HRC Staff:

Susan Baxter Simon Kue

Noreen Shawcross Ray Neirinckx

David Hammarström Darlene Price

James Ryczek Doris De Los Santos

Roberta Aaronson Evelyn Quiñones

Susan Bodington Mike Tondra

Walter Combs

Jeanne Cola

Susan Bodington

Amy Rainone

Valerie Voccio

Mark Van Noppen

Rhode Island Housing Staff:

Chris Gorham

Amy Rainone

Guests : Legal Counsel:

Corinna Roy Gerald Mc Avoy

David St. Germain

Chris Hannafin

Pursuant to Chapter 46 of Title 42 General Laws of Rhode Island, notice of this meeting was posted at the State House and at RI Housing Resources Commission offices.

1. Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2006.

Dennis Langley moved approval of the minutes; David Hammarström seconded.

Motion passed.

2. Report of the Chair

Susan Baxter acknowledged question # 9 being passed with the \$50 million dollar bond. She has formed a committee to implement the regulations. A first draft is available today with the intention to

approve publication with a 30 day comment period. A workshop will be held on January 2, 2007 and two hearings during in February. An RFP will go out in March with the commission action in June 2007.

Susan also stated that The Project Homeless Connect event was very successful with about 300 clients attending and the release of the ten year plan to end homelessness.

Bank of America will be providing \$100,000 to assist groups funded through NOP. A meeting will be held on January to develop the distribution list. Noreen provided an update on the Welcome Arnold Shelter situation saying that there is an alternative site since the news in April. This will include an emergency shelter apartment model to better assist the individuals with one case worker for 20 residents.

3. Review of Budget FY 2008

Noreen gave the review of the significant cuts in the HRC budget. Staff is covered in the Office of Housing and Community Development budget. The HRC program budget cut of 15% is being addressed by the executive committee.

Noreen reviewed each item in the HRC program. Jeanne Cola suggested a motion to be put on the table to include \$150,000 for the Technical Assistance Center; she also asked how would the Technical Assistance Center operate without it being funded even

though the RIGL requires it? There was a question about the AG/DuPont funding being used for the TA Center or again applying to HUD for this. A proposal for revised budget to show the TA Center was made. Peter Walsh moved to include the TA Center in the budget with the HUD grant as a source. Dennis Langley seconded. Motion approved with Roberta Aaronson abstaining. If this does not work, the budget can be revised in the future.

4. R.I.G.L 45-53, Report on Status of Implementation-Resolution 5
Electronic copies will be sent out to all the HRC members. Update reports were given on the 29 cities and towns on work to meet the 10% goal with a fact based report on actions being taken. There was a resolution to forward the report with changes as recommended by Commissioners. Susan Bodington moved approval; Dennis Langley seconded. Motion passed.

5. Neighborhood Opportunities Program-Resolution

Ray Neirinckx reviewed the 17 projects out of 35 applications recommended for funding in the amount of \$4,558,418. There was considerable discussion on funding for the existing projects.

Barbara Fields asked that we request the Building Better Communities funds to be included in FY 2008 NOP.

Jim Ryczek moved to approve the NOP funding recommendations and to request that BBC be included in the FY 2008 budget. Terence Tierney seconded. Motion passed with Jenne Cola and Kevin Flynn

abstaining.

6. Lead Regulations-Resolution

Doris DeLos Santos presented a summary of proposed changes in the Lead Hazard Mitigation Regulations regarding the quality control measures for inspectors and classes. Terence Tierney moved to authorize publication of the amended regulations. Motion passed.

7. Affordable Housing Bond Regulations-Resolution

Susan Bodington gave the overview. There was some debate on language that could waive timelines and rules. There was a motion made by Terence Tierney, seconded by Walter Combs to omit 6.11 in the waiver section and to strike 6.3.1 due to concern with consistency and standards in practice. The motion was amended to only omit 6.3.1. Motion passed. The section 6.11 waiver will be reviewed by Legal Counsel, Gerald Mc Avoy. Motion to do so was made by Terence Tierney with Roberta Aaronson seconding. Motion passed. Barbara Fields moved to approve the regulations for publication. Peter Walsh seconded. The motion passed. David Hammarström requested to be recorded as not voting.

8. Reports of the Offices

Reports for the offices were distributed in the packets.

9. Public Comment Period

NONE

Meeting adjourned 11:39am